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Proceedings at the 6th Annual Session
of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, Held at
Montpelier, Vt., Jan. 12 & 13, 1869.

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PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

Sixth Annual Session

OF THE

Grand Lodge of Vermont,

HELD AT

MONTPELIER, VT., JAN. 12 & 13, 1869.



MONTPELIER:

FREEMAN STEAM PRINTING HOUSE AND BINDERY.

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George C. Dempsey

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Sixth Annual Session
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT.

JANUARY 12, 1869.

The GRAND LODGE was opened in due form on Tuesday, January 12, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the Lodge Room of Washington Lodge, No. 54. The following officers were present :

Rev. PLINY H. WHITE, G. W. C. T.
Rev. H. P. CUSHING, G. W. S. & G. W. T.
Rev. H. K. COBB, G. W. Chaplain.
J. T. CASSINO, G. W. A. S.
A. C. PARKER, G. W. O. G.

The G. W. C. T. appointed as Committee on Credentials, Bros. Cobb and Warner.

The following persons were initiated into the Grand Lodge Degree :

Lodge No.	1.	S. A. Grow.
No.	2.	Rev. A. A. Smith.
No.	3.	Rev. Alson Scott.
No.	4.	Margaret E. White, T. L. Smith.
No.	6.	J. W. Warner.
No.	7.	William Dodge.
No.	8.	J. H. Brooks.
No.	11.	Rev. John H. Woodward, E. P. Colton.
No.	13.	Geo. M. Duncan.
No.	14.	Warren V. Hardy.
No.	17.	Charlotte Willmarth.
No.	18.	A. Farman.
No.	19.	H. E. Reynolds.
No.	20.	H. H. Bradley, Wm H. Root.
No.	22.	Franklin Bell.
No.	23.	Rev. P. N. Granger.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

- Lodge No. 24. O. Bailey.
 No. 25. Rev. N. W. Scott, L. W. Foster.
 No. 26. S. R. Barnet.
 No. 28. J. H. Cheney.
 No. 29. S. C. Grandey, Ruby W. Parker.
 No. 30. N. Webster, J. W. Carpenter, J. S. Pearl.
 No. 32. P. P. Ray, S. S. Bedard, R. O. Sturtevant, W. A. Cooper,
 Mary Burgess, Nellie Williams, Mrs. E. P. Brainard.
 No. 35. Frank H. Bascom, H. C. Johnson, Mrs. H. C. Johnson.
 No. 36. W. H. Solomon Porter E. Brown, T. E. Brownell.
 No. 39. William Orr, C. E. Sargent.
 No. 41. M. M. Brown, E. Ingham, L. Edwards, G. W. Foggetta.
 No. 42. W. W. Foster.
 No. 43. Mary N. Burnham, J. Gill.
 No. 45. M. H. Safford, C. W. Turner.
 No. 46. C. C. Morse, W. H. H. Kenfield.
 No. 47. Ida E. Kenney, A. E. Kenney.
 No. 48. J. A. Westcott, Heman Miller.
 No. 49. S. W. Proctor, H. Freeman.
 No. 50. C. W. Smith.
 No. 51. James W. Hatch.
 No. 52. D. Y. Huntress, Rev. John Chase.
 No. 54. F. M. Jackson, Rev. E. Brown, I. M. Wright, C. W.
 Guernsey.
 No. 55. C. Green, L. Belknap.
 No. 57. Sister M. Hammond, W. H. Pratt,
 No. 58. L. W. Hawley, G. A. Dudley, Jennie N. Ensworth.
 No. 59. William Fuller.
 No. 60. L. Brown, E. O. Lee.
 No. 64. Joseph Bates, 2d.
 No. 67. D. A. Dean, H. Mason.
 No. 69. J. A. Allen, Sister A. Allen.
 No. 73. H. Porter.
 No. 74. Rev. W. W. Atwater.
 No. 75. S. W. Anderson, A. T. Dunn.
 No. 76. Joseph Bates, 2d.
 No. 77. W. W. Hall, C. W. Grey.
 No. 78. Putnam Newton, C. Woodhouse.
 No. 79. Phebe M. Smith, Rev. E. Folsom, B. C. Rodgers.
 No. 80. V. E. Goodrich.
 No. 81. Rev. B. F. Livingston.
 No. 82. S. Bradley, Eunice Northrop.
 No. 83. O. E. Butterfield.
 No. 85. L. H. Tabor.
 No. 87. E. N. S. Morgan, G. I. Benton, B. F. Wood.
 No. 88. Merrick Eastabrooks.
 No. 89. L. E. Knapp, S. E. Knapp.
 No. 91. E. W. Slayton.
 No. 93. V. A. Gilmore.
 No. 94. A. P. Tupper.
 No. 96. L. A. Babcock.
 No. 97. H. C. Powers.
 No. 99. Rev. D. Austin.
 No. 101. A. J. Hoag.
 No. 102. Arthur I. Ingalls.

Voted. To hold sessions as follows : Meet at 9, A. M., adjourn at 12, M. ; meet at 2, P. M., adjourn at 5, P. M. ; meet at 7, P. M., and adjourn when the Lodge shall order.

Ordered, That a committee of fifteen be appointed by the Chair to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

R. W. G. T., J. H. Orne, was received in due form, and in response to the welcome extended to him by the G. W. C. T., made some very interesting and eloquent remarks.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

Lodge opened in due form, in the Village Hall, R. W. G. T. Orne in the chair.

Sister Flint, of Harmony Lodge, No. 17, was appointed G. W. V. T.

Bro. N. W. Scott, of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 25, was appointed G. W. I. G.

Bro. P. N. Granger was appointed G. W. M.

The G. W. C. T. announced the following Committees :

On Nominations.—F. A. Bascom, Charlotte Willmarth, D. Y. Huntress, Warner V. Hardy, I. L. Pearl, A. E. Kinney, E. P. Colton, C. Woodhouse, J. Gill, O. E. Butterfield, E. Ingham, Phebe M. Smith, E. Brown, E. P. Brainard, A. Allen.

On Appeals.—R. O. Sturtevant, W. H. Solomon, J. W. Warner.

On the state of the Order.—Rev. P. N. Granger, C. C. Morse, L. Brown.

On Finance.—Rev. N. W. Scott, Rev. A. Scott, J. Bates, 2d.

G. W. C. T. White then read his Annual Report, which was referred to a special committee of five for distribution.

REPORT OF THE G. W. C. TEMPLAR.

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Vermont :

As we again assemble for our annual session, we have abundant occasion to congratulate each other, and to thank God, for the prosperity which, during the past year, has attended the cause of temperance in Vermont, and our Order as a worker in that cause.

We have all the more occasion for congratulation and thankfulness on our own account when we call to mind the reverses which have been experienced in some of our sister States. In Massachusetts, a legislature, composed, to an unprecedented degree, of incompetent and vicious men, and "rank with the odor of corruption as no legislature of Massachusetts ever before was," repealed the prohibitory law, and enacted a law legalizing the sale of liquors. As a consequence,

public bars and liquor saloons were thrown open in all parts of the State, drunkenness, debauchery, pauperism, and crime, fearfully increased, disorder and riot were rampant, and all kinds of immorality abounded. Our Order suffered a net loss, in that State, of more than three thousand members, among whom were many who had been reclaimed from intemperance, but who were not able to stand before the numerous and powerful temptations which a license law put in their way. In New Hampshire too, which is intimately connected with Massachusetts in business relations, the evil effects of the anti-temperance victory have been felt, and our Order has suffered a loss of members, and a decrease of lodges. We have reason to rejoice that we are more remote from the great center of anti-temperance influence and power in New England, and that we have escaped the evils with which others have been visited. Our law remains unrepealed, unimpaired. Whatever disposition may have been felt by any part of the people or of the legislature to attempt its repeal, they have not dared to make the attempt while the awful consequences of repealing the Massachusetts law have stared them in the face. The law has even been strengthened in one particular, and fortified against one method of evasion which has heretofore been practised with too much success. The law, too, has been enforced, not, indeed, with so much severity as it ought to have been, but quite as rigidly and with as good results as in any previous year. It is to the credit of our Order that the law has been better enforced in towns where there are lodges of Good Templars than in other towns.

The growth of our Order in this State during the past year has been quite as great as could reasonably be expected in the year of a presidential canvass, when the public mind is of necessity absorbed in politics, and everything else is held as of minor importance. A few lodges have, indeed, become much weakened, and six have entirely suspended operations, but their places have been much more than filled by the new lodges that have come into being. Beginning the year with sixty-six lodges, we have seen the number steadily increase, till there are ninety-four, in good working order, besides which, preliminary steps, more or less decisive, have been taken in several places, sufficient to justify the expectation that, within a few weeks, the lodges will number one hundred. This growth of the Order has greatly increased the labors of the officers of the Grand Lodge, especially in respect of correspondence, and of the decision of questions coming up by appeal or otherwise. It would be natural to suppose that in an Order so long established as ours has been, all debatable questions would ere this have been decided, and that the decisions would have been put on record. New circumstances, however, are constantly occurring, to give rise to new questions. During the past year, an unusual number of new questions have presented themselves, some of which have been important, and difficult of solution. Some of the decisions that have been made are now submitted to your consideration.

ELECTION OF CANDIDATES.

Does the amendment by the last Grand Lodge, of article third of the constitution of subordinate lodges, substituting "fourteen" for "sixteen," compel the lodges to receive candidates at the age of fourteen?

It does not. It only permits them to do so. Each lodge may determine by its own by laws what shall be the least age at which it will receive candidates.

Can a dispensation be granted to admit a candidate a few months less than fourteen years old?

It is not in the power of the G. W. C. T., nor of any one else, to grant a dispensation in such a case.

When a candidate is balloted for and rejected, is it in order for a member who votes in the affirmative to move a reconsideration of that ballot?

Any member, whether voting in the affirmative or in the negative, may move a reconsideration at the same meeting, but not at a subsequent meeting.

Can a Catholic, who says he should be obliged to reveal to the priest whatever the latter should desire to know of the work of the Order, be admitted to membership?

By no means. Not any more than a Protestant could, who should feel obliged to tell everything to his wife.

INITIATION.

Can a lodge, by vote, the deputy being absent, suspend the rule and initiate a candidate the same evening he presents himself?

No. Only the deputy has power to grant a dispensation in such a case. The deputy ought never to be absent; if he be, it is a misfortune, which, like other misfortunes, must be borne as patiently as possible.

REGALIA.

Can a brother, whose conscience will not allow him to wear the regalia, be permitted to sit in lodge without it?

No. If his conscience is so tender as that, something should be done to toughen it; or, rather, to cure it of that morbid condition which will permit him to use passwords, signals, salutations, and all other peculiarities of our Order, but which sees something wicked in a piece of white linen. Otherwise, let him depart in peace.

Can we wear our regalia at funerals, or on public occasions, in processions, without a dispensation from the G. W. C. T.?

Yes, care being taken to do it "with pleasure and profit to yourselves, and honor to this institution and the cause of temperance."

Has a lodge, or any part of its members, the right to wear any other regalia than that prescribed by the R. W. G. Lodge? If not, what is the penalty for wearing irregular regalia?

Neither the lodge as a whole, nor any individual member, has the right to wear, in the lodge-room, any other than the prescribed regalia. If a member persist in wearing irregular regalia, he is liable to discipline and to such penalty as the lodge shall prescribe. Analogy would seem to require that if a whole lodge, or the whole female portion of it, should so persist, the lodge would be liable to such penalty as the Grand Lodge shall prescribe.

Can a tax be assessed on the male members of a lodge to purchase regalia, and may such a tax be made a part of the quarterly dues to be paid before the P. W. is communicated?

It is legal to assess such a tax, and to make it a part of the dues.

RITUAL.

When the roll of officers is called, is it necessary to call the P. W. C. T.?

It is not necessary. His position is merely a post of honor, not an office. He is not liable to be fined for non-attendance, and therefore the reason for calling the roll does not apply to him. But if the lodge choose to have him called, as a mark of respect, there is no objection to it.

Must the P. W. C. T. and W. F. S. salute the W. V. T. before passing out, when ordered by the W. C. T. to repair to the ante-room to examine a candidate?

No. Officers, when directed by the W. C. T. to leave the hall on duty, make no salutation.

When a member speaks in lodge, he is to arise and address the W. C. T. Is he required to give the salutation?

No. That is only required of the Marshals after examination, and of officers entering the hall and reporting to the W. C. T.

Has the W. V. T. a right to withhold the response to the retiring salutation, and thus prevent a member from retiring?

If a member is not under actual discipline by the lodge, he must be his own judge as to the expediency and necessity of his retiring, except during the opening, initiatory, and closing ceremonies. The salutation to the W. V. T. is a mark of respect for her office, and a means of securing decorum and good order, rather than a submission to her of the question whether or not the member may retire.

What is to be done when the question is asked—"Has any member violated the obligation?"

Nothing at all, unless a member who has violated wishes to make confession and be re-obligated. That is the proper time for him to do so. The practice which has prevailed in some lodges, for all the members to rise and assume the attitude of taking the obligation, is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution of the R. W. G. Lodge.

INSTALLATION.

Can a lodge legally have a public installation of its officers?

Yes, by a dispensation from the G. W. C. T., but not otherwise.

On the evening of installation, a charge of violating the obligation was preferred against an officer elect, and a committee of investigation was appointed. It was insisted that he ought not to be installed while the charge was pending. The deputy, however, installed him, but decided that he could not officiate till the charge was disposed of. Was this right?

It was right to install the officer. The mere fact that a charge is pending against a member does not deprive him of any of the rights of membership. He is presumed to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty. He is entitled also to act in

his office. A man of delicate sensibilities will not wish to officiate while charges are pending against him, but if he does wish to do so, it is his right.

VIOLATION OF THE OBLIGATION.

At a regular meeting of our lodge, it was voted that drinking sweet cider is not a violation of our pledge. We would like your opinion in regard to the matter.

The vote is plainly illegal, as being contrary to the Constitution, which prohibits the use of cider, and declares "the juice of the apple running from the cider press" to be cider; contrary to the decision of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, which, at its session in 1865, decided, upon appeal from the deputy of Champlain Lodge, that "the use of sweet cider as a beverage is unquestionably a violation of the spirit as well as of the letter of the Good Templar's obligation"; contrary to the decisions of the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Wisconsin, as reported in the Digest, pp. 42, 43; contrary to the decision of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of North America, to which reference is made on p. 45 of the Digest.

Can a Good Templar, who owns a cider-mill, let it for the usual purposes, or employ a man not a Good Templar, to carry on the mill?

No. He must make sure that his mill is used for none but lawful purposes.

Can a Good Templar sell cider apples in the market, to be used for whatever purposes the purchaser may please?

He cannot. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, the presumption is that they will be made into cider to be used as a beverage.

Can a Good Templar, who owns a cider-mill, make cider for people who claim they want it for vinegar, but who he has good reason to think, from what he knows of their habits, will use some as a beverage? Can he let his mill to individuals to make cider for themselves, without questioning as to what they intend to do with it?

Both these questions are answered in the negative. Our pledge requires us to discountenance, in all proper ways, the making of cider as a beverage. It requires total abstinence from the manufacture, as well as from the use of it, for that purpose. To make it, knowing or being assured that some of it will be drunk, violates the pledge as really as to make it, being assured that all will be drunk. In the case referred to in the second question, the brother is not at liberty to ignore the very strong presumption that the man who hires a cider-mill intends to make cider for all the purposes for which it is used. He can only free himself from complicity in the unlawful manufacture, by questioning "as to what they intend to do," and making sure that they do not intend to do anything wrong.

Does a Good Templar, who is a stage-driver or owner, or an express agent, violate his obligation by carrying ale, beer, cider, wine, or other intoxicating liquor?

If he knows, or has good reason to believe, that it is to be used as a beverage, he does violate his obligation as a Good Templar, and also his obligation, as a citizen, to obey the laws of the State. If he be ignorant of the use which is to be made of it, and have no reason to suspect an unlawful use, he does not violate his obligation.

Does a Good Templar, who is a minor and is employed by his father or hired out by him to another, violate his obligation by picking cider apples and carrying them to the mill, and by loading and unloading the cider?

He does not. The Good Templar's obligation does not conflict with the prior obligation to filial obedience, nor are the acts in question any part of the process of manufacture.

Is the selling of Plantation or Hostetter Bitters a violation of the obligation?

It is. They consist mainly of alcoholic liquor, and the medicinal part of them is not sufficient in quantity to prevent their being freely used as a beverage.

A prosecution being commenced against a rum-seller, and he being required to procure \$1000 bail to appear for trial, a Good Templar becomes bail for him. Does he violate his obligation? If so, what shall be done?

He does violate his obligation. That requires him to discountenance by all proper means, the sale of alcoholic liquors. To become bail for an indicted rum-seller countenances the sale. It enables him to continue the sale, which otherwise he would be disabled to do. It encourages him in the sale, by giving him to understand that even the professed friends of temperance sympathize with him and are willing to assist him in escaping from the punishment due to his crimes. For the drunkard, the unfortunate victim of the rum-seller, our Order has no feeling but that of compassion and sympathy; but for the rum-seller himself, it has the utmost abhorrence and detestation. Other men commit crimes only occasionally; the crimes of the rum-seller are the business of his daily life. They commit crimes by impulse, he commits them of deliberate and determined purpose. Their virtue is overcome by great provocations and great temptations, his virtue is not sufficient to resist the temptation of a few cents profit on a glass of poison. The thief steals nothing but money or that which can be valued by money; the rum-seller robs his victim of money, health, self-respect, reputation, and happiness. The murderer kills only the body; the rum-seller murders body, mind and soul, and that by a death of lingering torture. For such a criminal as that, our Order can have no other desire than that "he shall have JUSTICE WITHOUT MERCY, who hath showed no mercy."

A member of our Order, of adult age, whose father is town agent for the sale of liquors, acts as clerk during the father's absence, and sells liquor. Does he violate his obligation?

That depends altogether upon the purpose for which he sells. If he sell only for medicinal, chemical, or mechanical purposes, he does not violate his obligation. But if, under cover of the agency, he sell for purposes of drinking, he does violate the obligation, and all the more grossly, because such sales tend to bring the prohibitory law into disrepute, and impair its efficiency.

A member of our Order being advised by his physician to drink whisky as a medicine, buys and drinks it repeatedly at the bar of a rum-selling hotel. Does he violate his obligation?

Certainly he does. His example is just the same as that of a person who drinks whisky for the love of it; besides which he countenances the violation of the law by the rum-seller. If the use of alcohol as a medicine is tolerated at all in our Order, it can only be when it is used as medicines generally are used; and if a man's health is such that his physician requires him to drink alcoholic liquor frequently and continually, he is altogether too unhealthy a man to belong to our Order.

CHARGES.

If a committee appointed to investigate charges against a member fail to meet at the appointed time and place, and the member also does not appear, are the proceedings thereby suspended, and is it necessary to prefer charges anew?

By no means. The authority of the committee continues till it has fully investigated the case, or has been discharged by the lodge.

We are about to try brother ——— for violation of Article II. He says we cannot, because he is a member of the Grand Lodge. Can we try him?

Certainly. The subordinate lodge is the only tribunal which has original jurisdiction of a charge of violating Article II.

When charges are preferred against a lodge, whose business is it to answer them?

The business of the W. C. T., who may, however, avail himself of such assistance as he may need or desire.

PENALTY.

A brother being found guilty of violating the obligation, the committee recommended "that he acknowledge the same in open lodge." Is that sufficient?

It is not. Acknowledgment is no penalty. The very least penalty that can be inflicted on one who has violated the obligation, is re-obligation.

If a lodge deputy is suspended for a violation of the pledge, what effect is had upon the deputation?

The deputation is forfeited, and another deputy will be appointed.

If a member has received, and used, the password, unlawfully, and the lodge has voted to fine him, is he entitled to his seat without being re-obligated?

He is. When a member has violated his pledge of total abstinence, he must be re-obligated, whatever other penalty may be enforced. In other cases of discipline, the lodge may require re-obligation in addition to another penalty, or may regard the other penalty as sufficient.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A clearance card is granted to a brother, who applies for re-admission to the same lodge on that card, and is rejected. Shall the card be returned to him, or is it revoked by the rejection?

It is not revoked. To revoke it would be to restore him to his former position in the lodge, which is the very thing the lodge has refused to do. The card must be returned to the brother.

Our lodge has voted to allow each member to invite one friend to attend the literary exercises of the lodge, which take place on alternate evenings. Is it proper to let such persons be present during the opening exercises? If not, would it be proper to let them remain during the closing exercises?

It is not proper to let persons not members of the Order be present at either the opening or closing ceremonies. Nor is it much, if any, less improper to permit their presence at the literary exercises. Those exercises are among the most interesting and profitable parts of our work, and if outsiders are permitted to enjoy them, with no expense or trouble to themselves, very few will care to join. Have as many public meetings in public places as you please, but keep the lodge-room and all its exercises sacred to the members of our Order.

A neighboring lodge has surrendered its charter. Can we receive its members as visiting members without the P. W.? Can we receive quarterly dues from them, and give them the P. W.? Can we receive them as members, without initiation, upon their paying quarterly dues?

Neither of those things can be done. If the lodge were in good standing, its members are entitled to receive from the G. W. S. certificates equivalent to clearance cards, upon which they may be admitted to membership. If not in good

standing, its members can be admitted to other lodges, only by initiation in due form.

A member being found guilty of violating his obligation, and the ballot being about to be taken on the question, "Shall he be expelled?" the W. C. T. left his chair and deposited his ballot; then resuming the chair, he declared the result to be "total 43, for expulsion 31, against 12." Had the W. C. T. a right to cast his ballot? If not, was the result illegal, and would it be set aside by the Grand Lodge?

The W. C. T. has a right to cast his ballot. The Constitution makes it his "duty to give the casting vote in case of a tie," but it does not take away the right which he has, as a member of the lodge, to deposit his ballot in any and all cases in which a vote is taken by ballot. If he had not the right, it is not probable that the Grand Lodge would set aside the result in this case, as there was a clear two-third vote for expulsion, let his vote have been given on whichever side.

What remedy has an aggrieved member whose lodge refuses to take any notice of an appeal to which he is fully entitled?

He should make known his case to the G. W. C. T., and prove it; the lodge will then be required either to grant the appeal or surrender its charter.

It is proper that I also report to you my action in a case for which I have found no precedent, and in which, therefore, I was under the necessity of acting in the best exercise of my own judgment, leaving it for this Grand Lodge to sanction or to disallow my action. At the last session of this Grand Lodge, the charter of Sheridan Lodge, No. 61, located at Bakersfield, was revoked, and from that action an appeal was taken to the Right Worthy Grand Lodge. A short time before, Vidette Lodge, No. 61, had been organized in the same village, and while the appeal was pending and Sheridan Lodge was in a state of suspension, Vidette Lodge had received a number of members, among them some who had been members of Sheridan Lodge. By the restoration of the charter of Sheridan Lodge by the R. W. G. Lodge, both lodges were kept in existence, in a village in which there was need only of one, and room only for one. The inevitable and actual result was continual friction, strife, and rivalry, between the two lodges, and continual appeals to the officers of the Grand Lodge to settle questions arising from this anomalous condition of things. Near the close of the year, however, a desire for union was manifested, and application for a plan of union was made to me. I recommended that both lodges surrender their charters, and that a new charter should be issued to them as a united lodge, having a new name and number different from the name and number of either lodge, and that the officers of the new lodge, for the remainder of the quarter, should be selected equally from the officers of the former lodges. I also decided that no formal institution of the united lodge was necessary, but that the vote of the lodges, accepting the plan, was all that was necessary to perfect the organization; that the officers having been once installed for the quarter, need not be re-installed in order to serve out the quarter as officers of the united lodge; and that members of either of the lodges, in good standing, did, by the very act of union, become members of the united lodge, without taking clearance cards from the old lodge, or being initiated in the new. Both lodges, by unanimous votes, accepted the plan of union, a new charter was issued, and under this charter the united lodge has for several weeks been moving with a good degree of harmony and success. It remains for this Grand Lodge to give its sanction to the proceedings and decision, or to disapprove of them, as its judgment may direct.

We enter now upon the work of another year, grateful for the past and encouraged by it, hopeful for the future and resolved to make the most and the best of it. We can with greater confidence than ever before, urge the claims of our Order upon the people of Vermont. It has stronger claims upon them than can be made by any other temperance organization. Its claims rest upon its intrinsic merits, and upon what it is capable of doing for the temperance cause. It does not profess to be anything more than the means to an end, but it does profess to be a means, and that a most potent one, to the accomplishment of a great and good end, namely, the establishment of the temperate in the principles and practice of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate, the guarding of the weak and tempted against the allurements to vice by which they are surrounded, and the rescuing of the drunk-

ard from the bondage and the shame of a depraved appetite. All this it has done and is still doing in many places in Vermont, and it is capable of doing ten-fold as much work of the same kind. If it shall receive the hearty approbation and co-operation of all who desire the triumph of the cause of temperance. It has this advantage already, and this strong claim upon the co-operation of all friends of temperance: that it is even now the strongest temperance organization in the State. Stronger not only than any other organization, but stronger than all others. The Sons of Temperance have eight or ten divisions, several of which have a merely nominal existence. The Rechabites have a tent or two. The Temple of Honor, the youngest and one of the most promising members of the temperance brotherhood, and to which we cordially extend the right hand of fellowship, has six temples. The original temperance societies, which still retain an active existence, are less than a score in number. It is safe to say, that all the really living and active organizations in the State, other than our own, are not so many as thirty. Contrast with these, our ninety-four lodges, some of them counting their members by hundreds, and all of them, whether with more or fewer members, alive, vigorous, aggressive, full of hope, of energy, and of activity; and then decide, in the exercise of candor and good judgment, where the strength of the temperance cause in Vermont is to be found to-day.

Our past usefulness, our present prosperity, and our capacity for greater usefulness in future, impose upon us a very weighty responsibility. It is hardly too much to say that the responsibility of the cause of temperance in Vermont rests upon us, and what we do not do will be left undone. Something, indeed, will be done by other organizations, and the more they do, the more will we rejoice. But the burden rests upon us, and we must bear it. Let me suggest some things which ought to be done.

1. The number of lodges ought to be increased. As yet, we occupy less than half the towns in the State, and much less than half the villages. But there is as much need of our Order in one town as in another. There is not a town in the State in which the good of the community, and the interests of temperance and virtue generally, would not be promoted by the establishment of a lodge of Good Templars, and the maintenance of it as a permanent institution. Nor is there a town in which a lodge cannot be organized, if suitable efforts be made. Our Order already has a foothold in every county in the State, (except Grand Isle,) and the way is thus prepared for its speedy establishment in every town. Let each lodge make itself responsible for the organization of a lodge in the town or village nearest to it, and the work will soon be done.

2. Lectures ought to be multiplied. It is one of the excellences of our Order that it provides for constant instruction in regard to temperance, and thus secures that intelligent interest in it, without which it will never be long practised as a virtue, nor successfully advocated as a reform. Lectures are one of the most effectual means of creating an intelligent interest. They are also a powerful assistance in propagating our Order. Whenever, during the past year, lodges have secured good lectures, large additions to the lodges have almost invariably followed, and even though the additions may have been few, the lodges have been inspired with new zeal, courage, and strength. If an able lecturer could be employed all the time, who should not only address the lodges already in existence, but should make known the merits of our Order in places where it has not been established, there can be no doubt that the cause of temperance and Good Templarism would be greatly promoted. The weaker lodges especially need the benefit of lectures, and as they which need them the most are the least able to bear the expenses of them, it is worthy of inquiry, at least, whether this Grand Lodge shall not, in the exercise of its parental care of them, defray the whole or a part of the necessary expenses of one or two lectures annually to each lodge.

3. Temperance literature ought to be freely circulated. The literature of temperance is rich, copious, and increasing in quantity and merit. At least a hundred

volumes, recently published, are on the catalogue of the National Temperance Society. Some of them are narrative, some didactic, some argumentative, and all worthy to be read either for stimulus or for instruction. If a lodge is not able to maintain a temperance library of its own, it ought at least to secure the introduction of as many temperance volumes as possible into the nearest Sabbath School library. Temperance tracts are abundant and cheap, and every lodge should make it a point to distribute them as extensively as possible. No less important is it that temperance periodicals should be extensively circulated. "The National Temperance Advocate," "The Good Templar," and "The Good Templar's Advocate," are each and all worthy to be supported and to be read; and the last named has special claims to our support, as being published in our own State, and being devoted to the interests of the Order here.

And now, officers and members, I commend our good cause anew to your care, trusting that you will adopt measures which will secure greater successes than have yet been achieved, and will hasten the day of the complete and perfect triumph of temperance in Vermont.

G. W. S. and Tr. read his Report, which was referred to the Committee on Distribution.

In view of our success during the year, the Grand Lodge sung the Doxology, and Prayer was offered by G. W. Chaplain.

REPORT OF THE G. W. SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Vermont:

It affords me great pleasure to present to you a brief, and I trust satisfactory, statement of the work of this office for the past year.

FINANCIAL.

Cash and notes on hand at the commencement of the year.....	\$1,043 45
Amount received during the year,.....	2 210 03
	<hr/>
	\$3,254 38
Amount paid out during the year.....	1,912 41
	<hr/>
Cash on hand.....	\$1,341 97
<i>Assets of Grand Lodge:</i>	
Printed matter, &c., on hand.....	\$300 00
Plates, trunks, &c.....	75 00
Due from lodges.....	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$425 00
Assets above liabilities.....	<hr/>
	\$1,766 97

STATISTICAL.

The following table shows the number and location of Lodges organized during the year:

NAMES.	No.	LOCATION.
Frontier.....	9	Newport Center.
Waterman.....	26	Georgia.
Barre.....	43	Barre.
May Flower.....	50	Pomfret.
Blazing Star.....	64	West Derby.
Marble.....	49	West Rutland.*

* Reported dead last year.

NAME,	No.	LOCATION.
Lake	65	Newport.*
Golden Rule.....	66	Benson.
Asbury	67	Pownal Center.
Cushing	68	Danby.
Diamond.....	69	Westford Center.
Clear Water.....	70	Londonberry.
Arlington	71	East Arlington.
Wantastiquet.....	72	Jamaica.
Mallet's Bay.....	73	Colchester Point.
Crystal Gem.....	74	Brandon.
Beacon Light.....	75	Fairfax.
Clyde	76	Derby Center.
Mystic	77	Pownal.
Rutland	78	Rutland.
Cascadnac	79	Gaysville.
Plainfield	80	Plainfield.
Richford.....	81	Richford.
Fairfield	82	Fairfield.
Waverley	83	Wilmington.
Valley.....	84	North Hydepark.
Verd Mont.....	85	West Topsham.
Rochester.....	86	Rochester.
Bennington.....	87	Bennington.
Queechee Valley.....	88	Sherburne.
Mt. Nebo.....	89	Middlebury.
River Side	90	Bradford.
Mad River	91	Warren.
Fairhaven.....	92	Fairhaven.
Winton.....	93	Bakersfield.
Cold Spring.....	94	East Middlebury.
Excelsior	95	Barnard Center.
Waitsfield.....	96	Waitsfield.
Lincoln Valley.....	97	Lincoln.
Stamford.....	98	Stamford.
Missisquoi	99	Shekton.
Bristol.....	100	Bristol.
Floronica.....	101	Monkton.
Lewis Creek.....	102	North Ferrisburgh.

The following lodges have died during the year :

Caspian, No. 9, Greensboro.
Terrace, No. 26, Newbury. Surrendered charter.
Excelsior, No. 43, East Hardwick. Surrendered charter.
Passumpsic, No. 49, Lyndon Center.
Sheridan, No. 61, and Vidette, No. 56. Surrendered charters and united.
Lake, No. 65,—and other lodges have been assigned their members, in part.

I have been unable to receive any reply during the year from the following lodges :

New England.....No. 10.....Enosburgh Falls.
Green Mountain....." 33.....Morrisville.
Martha Washington....." 37.....Underhill.

* Since died.

We close the year with a substantial financial basis of cash, \$1,341 97. We number 102 lodges, and, as correctly as we can ascertain, a *working* membership of more than *Six Thousands*. The cause of Christianity *only*, surpasses in magnitude and value the one inscribed on that banner which tids us go into the field.

As your officer I have the past year labored diligently, with some trembling and much anxiety; yet, with a cheerful and honest heart I have watched the onward march of our glorious columns through the beloved State of Vermont. Thanking the officers and members for their sympathy, patience and courtesy, I submit this brief report, by using the language of one in whose character blend the three beautiful emblems of our Order: "Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God." "Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me."

In F., H. & C.,

H. P. CUSHING, G. W. S. & G. W. T. .

The G. W. C. T. announced the

Committee on Distribution.—A. A. Smith, L. Belknap, S. W. Anderson, Eunice Northrop, T. L. Smith.

R. W. G. T. Orne gave instructions in the private work of the Order, by invitation of the Grand Lodge.

A Committee on Milcage was ordered, as follows :

W. H. Root, L. E. Knapp, S. C. Grandey.

The Journal was read and approved.

Adjourned.

EVENING.

The Grand Lodge met at 7 p. m., R. W. G. T. Orne in the chair, and opened in due form. Bro. Sturtevant was appointed G. W. M. *pro tem.*, and Sister Flint continued to act as G. W. V. T.

The Committee on Appeals reported, and the report, which was, in substance, that the decisions of the G. W. C. T. be adopted as the law of this Grand Lodge, was adopted.

Committee on Distribution reported, and their report was adopted.

The election of Grand Lodge officers was made the special order for to-morrow morning at 9 1-2 o'clock.

I. M. Wright, of Montpelier, presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge having heard, with satisfaction, Bro. Edward Carswell, as a Temperance Lecturer, highly appreciate his efficient labors, and recommend him as such to the confidence and respect of all the friends of temperance.

G. W. Foggett presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Whereas, To do our traffic with, and pay our money to, traders whose business is, in whole or in part, the sale of intoxicating drinks, tends to encourage said liquor dealers; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge give it strictly in charge to every Good Templar to trade, so far as practicable, only with known temperance people, and where there are none such in trade, to encourage the establishment of *new firms*, composed of those true to the cause of temperance.

A general discussion took place with reference to the employment of lecturers the ensuing year; R. W. G. T. Orne participating, made an excellent speech.

Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 9 A. M.

Grand Lodge met according to adjournment, and opened in due form, G. W. C. T. White in the chair.

Journal read and approved.

Committee on Mileage reported, and the report was adopted.

The following officers were elected and appointed for the ensuing year :

Rev. P. H. WHITE, G. W. C. T.

Rev. H. K. COBB, G. W. Counselor.

Miss LUCY J. BRADSHAW, G. W. V. T.

Rev. H. P. CUSHING, G. W. S. & G. W. Treas.

Rev. ALSON SCOTT, G. W. Chaplain.

E. N. MERRIAM, G. W. M.

Miss AGNES A. WALKER, G. W. D. M.

O. E. BUTTERFIELD, G. A. Sec.

FRANK H. BASCOM, G. W. Mess.

Miss PHEBE M. SMITH, G. W. I. G.

J. A. CARPENTER, G. W. O. G.

The above officers were installed by R. W. G. T. Orne.

Bros. Woodhouse and Cassino were approved as sureties for the G. W. S. & G. W. Treas.

Rev. H. K. Cobb, T. E. Brownell and Mrs. H. C. Johnson were

elected Representatives to the R. W. G. L., and E. P. Brainard, Mary N. Burnham and Br. J. H. Woodard, Alternates.

Bro. Cobb offered the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, 1. That this Grand Lodge recognize with great pleasure the presence of R. W. G. T. Orne, and his valuable services and counsel at this session.

Resolved, 2. That in the judgment of this Grand Lodge a repetition of such visits will greatly promote the efficiency of our Order.

The G. L. Constitution was amended so as to allow the Representatives to the G. L. "two cents" per mile, instead of "one."

Adjourned.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Lodge met and opened in due form.

Voted, To hold the next session of the Grand Lodge at Rutland.

Bro. Cobb reported his doings at the R. W. G. L., and on motion, it was voted to pay him fifteen dollars for expenses, in addition to the sixty dollars allowed him by the R. W. G. L.

On motion of Bro. Woodhouse, the G. W. S. & T. receive \$100 additional for last year's service.

The Committee on the Good of the Order presented the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE ORDER.

The continued prosperity of our Order, as indicated by the reports of the G. W. officers, affords us abundant cause for congratulation and encouragement in the great and good work in which we are engaged. The high character of its members, the nature of its principles, and the evident favor of God resting upon our efforts, justify us in claiming for our Order the first rank in the army of Temperance, and impose upon us the greatest obligation to labor with zeal and faithfulness until the land shall be redeemed from the terrible curse of intemperance.

The reports of our officers show that we have more than doubled our membership, and we believe that the masses of our membership are more thoroughly imbued with the spirit and principles of our Order than ever before, and consequently are better prepared to prosecute the good work to final success. We would earnestly recommend that every brother and sister present make the most earnest efforts to instill into the minds of our members the real spirit of our Order, and our lectures should especially educate the people at large in the principles and purposes of Good Templarism.

Your committee would say, in regard to such portions of the G. W. C. Templar's report as was assigned them, that while they rejoice that our excellent prohibitory law remains unimpaired, we believe that it might be made still more efficient, if it could be so amended as to provide for a State constabulary force, whose duty it

shall be to see the law strictly enforced. The G. W. C. Templar recommends the increase of lectures, and the appointment of an effective lecturer, who shall devote his entire time to the work. With this recommendation your committee heartily agree, provided the state of our finances will allow the employment of a first-class man—one who combines strong love for the Order, fervent zeal and great wisdom—to prosecute the enterprise. A man who lacks these qualifications would only bring us into disrepute, and waste our means. With regard to temperance literature, your committee are of the opinion that the report of the G. W. C. Templar is worthy of great consideration. There is no more effective way to promote the cause of temperance than to scatter temperance tracts, papers and books among the people, and your committee are of the opinion that no better use could be made of a portion, at least, of the surplus funds of this Grand Lodge and of the subordinate lodges, than to purchase temperance literature for gratuitous distribution.

In conclusion, your committee would pray that our unparalleled success may not lead us to trust in an arm of flesh, but remember that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth, and will give truth the ultimate victory.

P. N. GRANGER,
LORENZO BROWN,
Committee.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows, which was adopted :

The Committee on Finance have given to the subject what attention their limited time and other duties allowed them to do, and report the following as the result of their deliberations :

We congratulate the Grand Lodge on its present financial prosperity, as evinced by the Secretary's report, according to which there are available funds in the treasury of the Lodge, amounting to \$1,341 97. The Secretary and Treasurer's book appears to have been kept with great care and fidelity, which has contributed, without doubt, to the very satisfactory condition of our finances. Nothing appears to have been forgotten or neglected. From estimates of probable expenses which we think will accrue during the coming year, we recommend a *per capita* tax, same as last year, of eight cents per member, each quarter. This would raise a sum, calling our membership six thousand, of \$1,920. This sum would probably be considerably increased by charter fees and the *per capita* tax on the members of the new lodges, and the increase of members in the old lodges. Probably the whole amount, including funds now in the treasury or what will remain in the treasury after paying the expenses of the present session, will exceed, somewhat, \$3,000, which we judge will pay all current expenses of the Grand Lodge, and yet leave a sum sufficient to keep an efficient Lecturer in the field during most, if not all the year.

Of that part of the Secretary and Treasurer's report referred to us we have only to say, that from such examination of his books as we have been able to make, we are satisfied that they are substantially, and, so far as we can discover without a particular review of the whole, entirely correct.

We furthermore recommend that the Grand Worthy Chief Templar be paid for his services the coming year, \$300 and his expenses, and the Grand Worthy Secretary and Treasurer, \$600 and his expenses.

Respectfully submitted.

N. W. SCOTT,
ALSON SCOTT,
JOS. BATES, 2d,
Committee.

Voted, To appoint the elective officers of the Grand Lodge a com-

mittee to supply a Lecturer during the ensuing year, at a cost not exceeding \$1,500.

The following questions were presented and answered :

To the Grand Lodge of I. O. of G. T. of Vermont :

STATEMENT:—Br. A. was a lodge deputy. At a regular meeting of his lodge, held Oct. 28th, he was elected W. C. T. for the ensuing quarter, and resigned his office as L. D., and his resignation was accepted by the officers of the Grand Lodge. On the 5th of November following, a L. D. commission was made out and forwarded to Bro. B. On the 11th day of November Bro. A. proceeded to install Bro. C., W. C. T., as proxy for himself, and also installed the other officers of the lodge in due form, after which Bro. C. vacated the chair, and Bro. A. assumed it as W. C. T. This installation ceremony was performed after Bro. A. had resigned his office as L. D., and his resignation had been accepted, and after Bro. B. had been commissioned L. D., but before he had received his commission.

From the above facts the following questions are deduced, and respectfully submitted for decision :

1. Could Bro. A. at that time legally act as lodge deputy, and had he authority to install any officers in the lodge? *Ans.*—He has not.

2. Could he, under any circumstances, install another member as proxy for himself, and afterwards assume the chair as W. C. T.? *Ans.*—He could not.

3. Had Bro. R. any authority to install the officers of his lodge before he had received his commission, although he had been duly elected by his lodge to fill the office of L. D.? *Ans.*—He had not.

4. Do the officers thus installed by Bro. A. legally hold their seats as officers of the lodge, or does the administration of the lodge legally belong to the officers of the preceding quarter, ending October 31st?

No appeal having been taken, and the lodge having acquiesced in the proceedings till nearly the close of the quarter for which the officers were installed, it is too late to take advantage of the irregularity, and the only effect of these decisions can be to caution lodges and deputies against similar irregularities in the future.

Submitted in F.. H. and C.

W. H. H. KENFIELD,

Lamoille Central Lodge, No. 46, I. O. of G. T., Hydepark, Vt.

Are subordinate lodges required to pay the Grand Lodge dues of eight cents quarterly upon suspended members?

They are not.

When a brother takes a clearance card, and violates his obligation before joining another lodge, what is to be done with him?

The lodge from which he receives the card is to deal with him in just the same way as if the card had not been granted.

Has a member to whom a clearance card has been granted, a right to visit the lodge which granted it, or any other lodge?

He may visit any lodge during the remainder of the quarter for which he is legitimately in possession of the pass word, but no longer.

Certain members of a lodge which had ceased to hold meetings remove to another jurisdiction, and desire to unite with another lodge, but upon repeated applications to their own lodge, are unable to procure clearance cards, or to obtain any answer to their application. What is their status in the Order, and how can they be received to the lodge near which they live?

Until a lodge surrenders its charter, the presumption is that the suspension of its meetings is merely temporary, and that its members can sooner or later procure clearance cards. But if the lodge is in fact extinct, and satisfactory evidence of this is furnished the G. W. S., he will issue certificates that will answer the purpose of clearance cards.

Has a lodge the right to publish in the newspapers the names of expelled members? Is not such a publication a violation of the obligation not to reveal any proceedings of the lodge-room?

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Order being entirely silent on this subject, the lodge and all its members are left in the enjoyment of that freedom of the press

which allows any person to publish what he pleases, running his own risk as to incurring the penalty of the law of the State. Such publication does not violate the law of our Order. By universal usage, the admission of members, their election to office, and their dismissal or expulsion, are not things in regard to which secrecy is enjoined.

Can an application be received, be reported on by the committee of investigation, the ballot be taken, and the candidate be initiated, all at one meeting?

It can: if the lodge, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, request the deputy to grant a dispensation for that purpose, and the deputy actually grant the dispensation. But this should be done only in rare and exceptional cases. The lodge should exercise a sound discretion in asking the dispensation, and the deputy should exercise a sound discretion in granting it.

Which is the proper officer to be authorized to cast the vote of the subordinate lodge in the election of officers?

The Worthy Marshal.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The Lodge was called to order by R. W. G. T. Orne, and opened by prayer by the G. W. Chaplain.

Voted, That the Degree Constitution prepared by the R. W. G. L. be the one under which we work for the present.

Bros. Cobb, Sturtevant and Root were appointed a Committee on Degree Constitutions.

The following resolution was passed by a "two-thirds" vote:

Resolved, That inasmuch as Section eleven (11) of Article ten (10) of Subordinate Lodge Constitution plainly conflicts with the decision of P. R. W. G. T. Chase, at the Sixth (6th) Session of the R. W. G. L., as recorded on p. 76 of Chase's Digest, it is hereby repealed.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be extended to the R. R. Officers of Vermont for their courtesy in conveying Delegates to and from the Grand Lodge for fare one way.

Resolved, 2. That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be extended to the members of Washington Lodge, No. 54, for the use of their Hall during our sessions, and to the people of Montpelier, for their hospitality to Delegates and Visitors.

Voted, That five hundred copies of the Proceedings of this session be printed, and that five (5) copies be sent to each G. L. officer, and two (2) copies to each subordinate lodge.

A letter was read from the G. W. Sec. of New Hampshire, to the effect that Bro. James M. Bean was chosen Delegate from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire to the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and that illness prevented his being present.

Bro. Ingham was appointed to represent the Grand Lodge of Vermont at the next session of Grand Lodge in New Hampshire, and Bro. F. P. Ball, Alternate.

The following resolution was passed :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to subordinate lodges that they raise as large a subscription list for the Good Templar's Advocate as practicable.

Bro. Root, in behalf of Bro. Charles Parker of Burlington, presented to the G. W. C. T. some beautiful photographs of Faith, Hope and Charity, which were accepted with thanks.

The business being finished, the Grand Lodge of Vermont was closed in the proper form, to meet at Rutland, the second Tuesday in January, 1870.

H. P. CUSHING, G. W. SECRETARY.

OFFICERS.

Grand Lodge of Vermont.

- G. W. C. T.**—Rev. P. H. WHITE, Coventry.
G. W. C.—Rev. H. K. COBB, St. Albans.
G. W. V. T.—Miss LUCY J. BRADSHAW, Montpelier.
G. W. S. & G. W. Treas.—Rev. H. P. CUSHING, E. Burke.
G. W. Chaplain.—Rev. ALSON SCOTT, Marshfield.
G. W. M.—E. N. MERRIAM, Rutland.
G. W. D. M.—Miss AGNES A. WALKER, Springfield.
G. W. A. S.—O. E. BUTTERFIELD, Wilmington.
G. W. Messenger.—FRANK H. BASCOM, Vergennes.
G. W. I. C.—Miss PHEBE M. SMITH, Gaysville.
G. W. O. C.—J. A. CARPENTER, Johnson.

DELEGATES TO THE R. W. G. LODGE,

Rev. H. K. COBB, T. E. BROWNELL and Mrs. H. C. JOHNSON.

Next Session will be held at RUTLAND, second Tuesday in January, 1870.

Right Worthy Grand Lodge.

- R. W. C. T.**—J. H. ORNE, Marblehead, Massachusetts.
R. W. C. C.—H. H. GILES, Stoughton, Wisconsin.
R. W. C. V. T.—Miss R. J. REED, Fairmount, West Virginia.
R. W. C. S.—J. A. SPENCER, Cleveland, Ohio.
R. W. C. Treas.—JOHN CAMPBELL, St. Louis, Missouri.
R. W. C. Chap.—Rev. S. H. PLATT, Brooklyn, New York.
R. W. C. M.—M. M. EARLE, Sandy Creek, New York.
R. W. C. D. M.—Miss M. R. LEONARD, Winona, Minnesota.
R. W. I. C.—J. NORWOOD CLARK, Iowa City, Iowa.
R. W. O. C.—SAMPSON S. KING, Duncannon, Pennsylvania.

The next Annual Session will be held at Oswego, N. Y., the fourth Tuesday in May, 1869.

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